

Response to Office Action dated April 3, 2007
U.S. Application No. 10/646,134

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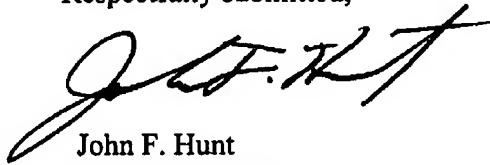
REMARKS

MAY 31 2007

The Office Action objected to claims 4,5, and 7-9 as depending upon a rejected base claim but being allowable in independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to remove the two stage flash process choice and to include the limitation of claim 4. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 5, 7, and 8 now depend from claim 1 and all remaining claims are now directed only to the gas plant diluent separation process form of the invention. This amendment also corrects the objection to claim 7 as being dependent on cancelled claim 6. Independent claim 17 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1 so as to be allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Examiner Singh, United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on May 31, 2007.



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